

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A method for talker arbitration, comprising:  
receiving a speech energy level of a current talker in a communication session;  
receiving a speech energy level of a prospective talker;  
selecting said prospective talker based on said speech energy level of said prospective talker in comparison to said speech energy level of said current talker; and  
granting said selected prospective talker floor control of said communication session.
2. A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said step of selecting comprises selecting said prospective talker if said speech energy level of said prospective talker is higher than said speech energy level of said current talker.
3. A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said communication session is a half-duplex communication session.
4. A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said step of receiving said speech energy level of said current talker comprises receiving, from a mobile station of said current talker, said speech energy level of said current talker.
5. A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said step of receiving said speech energy level of said prospective talker comprises receiving, from a mobile station of said prospective talker, said speech energy level of said prospective talker.
6. A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said speech energy level of said current talker is encoded based on a voice codec in use in said communication session.
7. A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:  
receiving a static priority level of said current talker;  
receiving a static priority level of said prospective talker;  
wherein said step of selecting comprises selecting said prospective talker based on

both said speech energy level and said static priority level of said prospective talker in comparison to said speech energy level and said static priority level of said current talker.

8. A method in accordance with claim 7, wherein said step of selecting comprises selecting said prospective talker based on a weighted function of said speech energy level and said static priority level of said prospective talker in comparison to a weighted function of said speech energy level and said static priority level of said current talker.

9. A method in accordance with claim 7, wherein said static priority level of said current talker and said static priority level of said prospective talker are based on respective subscription profiles of said current talker and said prospective talker.

10. A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:  
receiving a dynamic priority level of said current talker; and  
receiving a dynamic priority level of said prospective talker.

11. A method in accordance with claim 10, wherein said step of selecting comprises selecting said prospective talker based on both said speech energy level and said dynamic priority level of said prospective talker in comparison to said speech energy level and said dynamic priority level of said current talker.

12. A method in accordance with claim 10, wherein said dynamic priority level of said prospective talker is based on the number of times said prospective talker has been granted floor control.

13. A method in accordance with claim 12, wherein said prospective talker is prevented from obtaining floor control if said number of times said prospective talker has been granted floor control exceeds a threshold.

14. A method in accordance with claim 10, wherein said dynamic priority level of said prospective talker is inversely proportional to the number of times said prospective talker has been granted floor control.

15. A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:  
receiving a speech energy level of a second prospective talker;  
wherein said step of selecting comprises selecting said prospective talker based on said speech energy level of said prospective talker in comparison to said speech energy level of said current talker and said speech energy level of said second prospective talker.

16. A method in accordance with claim 15, wherein said step of selecting comprises selecting said prospective talker if said speech energy level of said prospective talker is higher than both said speech energy level of said current talker and said speech energy level of said second prospective talker.

17. A method in accordance with claim 15, wherein said step of receiving said speech energy level of said second prospective talker comprises receiving, from a mobile station of said second prospective talker, said speech energy level of said second prospective talker.

18. A method in accordance with claim 15, further comprising:  
receiving a static priority level of said second prospective talker;  
wherein said step of selecting comprises selecting said prospective talker based on both said speech energy level and said static priority level of said prospective talker in comparison to said speech energy level and said static priority level of said current talker and said speech energy level and said static priority level of said second prospective talker.

19. A method in accordance with claim 15, further comprising:  
receiving a dynamic priority level of said second prospective talker;  
wherein said step of selecting comprises selecting said prospective talker based on both said speech energy level and said dynamic priority level of said prospective talker in

comparison to said speech energy level and said dynamic priority level of said current talker and said speech energy level and said dynamic priority level of said second prospective talker.

20. A method in accordance with claim 19, wherein said dynamic priority level of said second prospective talker is based on the number of times said second prospective talker has been granted floor control.

21. A system for providing talker arbitration, comprising:  
a first mobile station associated with a current talker in a communication session;  
a second mobile station associated with a prospective talker;  
a server, connected to said first and second mobile stations, said server adapted to enable one of said first and second mobile stations to transmit based on speech energy levels respectively received from said first and second mobile stations.

22. A system in accordance with claim 21, wherein said communication is a half-duplex communication session.

23. A system in accordance with claim 21, wherein said server is a press-to-talk over cellular server.

24. A system in accordance with claim 21, wherein said server is adapted to enable said second mobile station to transmit if a speech energy level associated with said second mobile station is higher than a speech energy level associated with said first mobile station.

25. A system in accordance with claim 21, wherein said speech energy levels are encoded based on a voice codec in use in said communication session.

26. A system in accordance with claim 21, wherein said server is adapted to receive respective static priority levels of said current talker and said prospective talker.

27. A system in accordance with claim 26, wherein said server is adapted to enable one of said first and second mobile stations to transmit based on said speech energy levels respectively received from said first and second mobile stations, and further based on said respective static priority levels of said current talker and said prospective talker.

28. A system in accordance with claim 26, wherein said server is adapted to select said prospective talker based on a weighted function of said speech energy level and said static priority level of said prospective talker in comparison to a weighted function of said speech energy level and said static priority level of said current talker.

29. A system in accordance with claim 26, wherein said respective static priority levels of said current talker and said prospective talker are based on respective subscription profiles of said current talker and said prospective talker.

30. A system in accordance with claim 21, wherein said server is adapted to maintain respective dynamic priority levels of said current talker and said prospective talker.

31. A system in accordance with claim 30, wherein said server is adapted to enable one of said first and second mobile stations to transmit based on said speech energy levels respectively received from said first and second mobile stations, and further based on said respective dynamic priority levels of said current talker and said prospective talker.

32. A system in accordance with claim 30, wherein said respective dynamic priority levels of said current talker and said prospective talker are based on the respective number of times said current talker and said prospective talker has been granted floor control.

33. A system in accordance with claim 30, wherein said server is adapted to prevent said prospective talker from obtaining floor control if said number of times said prospective talker has been granted floor control exceeds a threshold.

34. A system in accordance with claim 30, wherein said respective dynamic priority levels of said current talker and said prospective talker are inversely proportional to

the respective number of times said current talker and said prospective talker has been granted floor control.

35. A system in accordance with claim 21, further comprising a third mobile station associated with a second prospective talker, said server adapted to allow said third mobile station to transmit if a speech energy level associated with said third mobile station is higher than both a speech energy level associated with said first mobile station and a speech energy level associated with said second mobile station..

36. A system in accordance with claim 35, wherein said server is adapted to receive a static priority level of said second prospective talker.

37. A system in accordance with claim 36, wherein said server is adapted to enable one of said first, second and third mobile stations to transmit based on said speech energy levels respectively received from said first, second and third mobile stations, and further based on said respective static priority levels of said current talker, said prospective talker and said second prospective talker.

38. A system in accordance with claim 35, wherein said server is adapted to maintain a dynamic priority level of said second prospective talker.

39. A system in accordance with claim 38, wherein said server is adapted to enable one of said first, second and third mobile stations to transmit based on said speech energy levels respectively received from said first, second and third mobile stations, and further based on said respective dynamic priority levels of said current talker, said prospective talker and said second prospective talker.

40. A system in accordance with claim 38, wherein said dynamic priority level of said second prospective talker is based on the number of times said second prospective talker has been granted floor control.

41. A system in accordance with claim 40, wherein said server is adapted to prevent said second prospective talker from obtaining floor control if said number of times said second prospective talker has been granted floor control exceeds a threshold.

42. A method for talker arbitration, comprising:  
 receiving a speech energy level of a plurality of prospective talkers in a communication session;  
 selecting a talker with the highest speech energy level; and  
 granting said selected talker floor control of said communication session.

43. A method for talker arbitration, comprising:  
 measuring a speech energy level of each of a plurality of prospective talkers in a communication session;  
 determining a static priority level of each of said plurality of prospective talkers; and  
 selecting one of said plurality of prospective talkers for floor control based on a speech energy level and a static priority level of said one of said plurality of prospective talkers; and  
 granting said selected one of said plurality of prospective talkers floor control of said communication session.

44. A method for talker arbitration, comprising:  
 measuring a speech energy level of each of a plurality of prospective talkers in a communication session;  
 determining a static priority level of each of said plurality of prospective talkers;  
 determining a dynamic priority level of each of said plurality of prospective talkers;  
 and  
 selecting one of said plurality of prospective talkers for floor control based on a speech energy level, a static priority level, and a dynamic priority level of said one of said plurality of prospective talkers; and  
 granting said selected one of said plurality of prospective talkers floor control of said communication session.